

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06547 092049Z

66-62

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NEA-06 PM-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 NSC-10

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 MC-02

IGA-01 L-02 DODE-00 EB-03 AID-10 ACDA-10 RSR-01 /086 W

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P R 091720Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9714

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 6547

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, US, PK, XD, MASS

SUBJECT: PROPOSED U.S. FINANCING OF ITALIAN NAVAL

ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN

1. RESPONSIBLE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED US THAT PAKISTANIS HAVE APPROACHED ITALIANS WITH PROPOSITION THAT FOUR TO SIX 200 TON ATTACK FRIGATES WITH MISSILE ARAMEMENT BE BUILD FOR PAKISTAN WITH ITALIAN ASSISTANCE AND U.S. FIANANCING.

2. ACCORDING SOURCE, PAKISTANI PLAN CALLS FOR BUILDING OF ONE FRIGATE IN ITALIAN YARDS AND OTHERS IN KARACHI WITH ITALIAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. OFFICIAL SAID PAKISTANI RATIONALE IS THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER ON U.S./INDIAN RELATIONS IF THIRD COUNTRY, I.E., ITALY, ASSISTED WITH BUIDING OF THESE NAVAL CRAFT, ALTHOUGH U.S. WOULD PAY BILL. OFFICIAL SAID THAT PAKISTANIS HAD ASKED ITALIANS TO RAISE PROPOSITION WITH U.S.

3. SOURCE SAID THAT SUBJECT COULD COME UP DURING JULY 12-15 BHUTTO VISIT TO ITALY, AND THEREFORE ITALIANS WOULD APPRECIATE U.S. RESPONSE BEFORE JULY 12. HE SAID FRANKLY ITALIANS MOST INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN PROPOSED DEAL WHICH WOULD BRING WORK TO ITALIAN SHIPYARDS AND TECHNICIANS.HE ASSERTED THAT ITALY IN NO  
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PAGE 02 ROME 06547 092049Z

RPT NO POSITION TO OFFER ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO GOP FOR

PROJECT.

4. WE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT USG WOULD AGREE TO FINANCE NAVAL CRAFT BUILD BY ITALIANS FOR PAKISTANIS. WE NOTED TIGHTNESS OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE BUDGET AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS AND REMARKED INDIANS NOT RPT NOT LIKELY TO BE DECEIVED BY SUGGESTED TRIANGULAR ARRANGEMENT. OFFICIAL EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING RE THESE NEGATIVE FACTORS, AND INDICATED THAT ITALIANS HAD NO RPT NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT VIABILITY OF GOP PROPOSAL.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S CONFIRMATION BY JULY 12 OF OUR PRELIMINARY NEGATIVE REACTION TO ITALIANS RE PAKISTANI PROPOSAL.  
VOLPE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS VOLPE  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Subject:** PROPOSED U.S. FINANCING OF ITALIAN NAVAL ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, IT, US, PK, XD  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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